

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

U.S. PATENT APPLICATION SERIAL NO. 10/700,767
FILING DATE 4 November 2003
INVENTORS Andrew Thomas Forsberg et al.
ASSIGNEE St. Jude Medical Puerto Rico B.V.
GROUP ART UNIT 3731
EXAMINER Unknown
ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO. 47563.0009
TITLE "Vascular Insertion Sheath with Stiffened Tip"

TRANSMITTAL LETTER AND CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

To: Mail Stop DD
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

From: L. Grant Foster
HOLLAND & HART LLP
555 - 17th Street, Suite 3200
P.O. Box 8749
Denver, Colorado 80201
Telephone: (801) 595-7830
Facsimile: (801) 364-9124

Enclosed are the items listed below submitted regarding the matter identified above:

1. Transmittal Letter with Certificate of Mailing included
2. PTO Return Postcard Receipt
3. Information Disclosure Statement
4. Form PTO-1449
5. Copy of Cited References.

Deposit Account Authorization - The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any applicable fees to Deposit Account No. 08-2623.

Date: 1 MARCH 2004

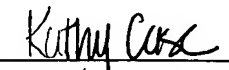
By: 

L. Grant Foster
Reg. No. 33,236

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

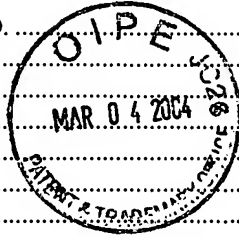
I hereby certify the items listed above as enclosed are being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as either first class mail or Express Mail, if the blank for Express Mail No. is completed below, in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop DD, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the below indicated date.

Date: 1 March 2004

Signature: 
Name: Kathy Case

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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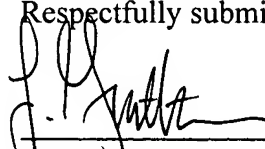
The citations listed on attached PTO Form 1449 may be material to the examination of the subject application. Applicant submits copies of these references in compliance with the duty of disclosure defined in 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97-1.99. The Examiner is requested to review and make these references of record in the above-referenced application.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists. Further, this submission does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art," Applicant reserves the right to present the relevant facts and law regarding such documents. Applicant reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

Applicant respectfully requests expeditious examination and a favorable action on the merits.

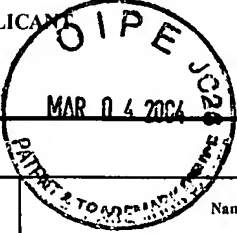
Date: 1 March 2004

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Grant Foster", written over a horizontal line.

J. Grant Foster
Reg. No. 33,236

Form PTO-1449		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY. DOCKET NO. 47563.0009		SERIAL NO. 10/700,767	
LIST OF ART CITED BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANT: St. Jude Medical Puerto Rico B.V.			
				FILING DATE: November 4, 2003		GROUP: 3731	



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate	
	AA	4,317,445	03/02/82	Robinson	A61M	5/00	03/31/80
	AB	5,021,059	06/04/91	Kensey et al.	A61B	17/00	05/07/90
	AC	5,320,639	06/14/94	Rudnick	A61B	17/04	03/12/93
	AD	5,662,681	09/02/97	Nash et al.	A61B	17/08	04/23/96
	AE	5,855,559	01/05/99	Van Tassel et al.	A61B	5/00	02/14/97
	AF	5,935,147	08/10/99	Kensey et al.	A61B	17/08	12/17/97
	AG	6,179,863 B1	01/30/01	Kensey et al.	A61B	17/08	04/19/99
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation		
					Yes	No	
AL							
AM							
AN							
AO							
AP							

OTHER PRIOR ART (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)			
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AS			
AT			

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.